



Watertown Town Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor

Caroline Bays
Councilor At Large

Michael F. Dattoli,
Councilor At Large

Anthony J. Donato,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Angeline B. Kounelis,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Kenneth M. Woodland,
District D Councilor

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018 AT 6:15 P.M. RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL

Council President Sideris called to order a regular meeting of the Town Council at 6:15 p.m. in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building. Those present were Councilors Caroline Bays, Michael F. Dattoli, Anthony J. Donato, Lisa J. Feltner, Angeline B. Kounelis, Anthony Palomba, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., Kenneth M. Woodland, and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were Michael J. Driscoll, Town Manager, Mark Reich, Town Attorney, and Marilyn W. Pronovost, Council Clerk

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:15 P.M.

Executive Session Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A Sec. 21 - To Conduct Strategy Sessions in Preparation for Negotiations with Nonunion Personnel or to Conduct Collective Bargaining Sessions or Contract Negotiations with Nonunion Personnel; To Discuss Strategy with Respect to Collective Bargaining or Litigation if an Open Meeting May Have a Detrimental Effect on the Bargaining or Litigating Position of the Public Body and the Chair so Declares; To Consider the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property if the Chair Declares that an Open Meeting May Have a Detrimental Effect on the Negotiating Position of the Public Body; and/or to Comply With, or Act Under the Authority of, Any General or Special Law or Federal Grant-In-Aid Requirements.

Executive Session Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)3 - To Discuss Strategy With Respect to Litigation if an Open Meeting May Have a Detrimental Effect on the Litigating Position of the Town Council and the Chair so Declares – Proposed Opioid Litigation

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council enter Executive Session to discuss the above two agenda items; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

3. RETURN TO SESSION – 7:15 P.M.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the Public Forum.

6. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Appointment of Two Town Councilors as Members to the School Building Committee

President Sideris appointed Councilor Piccirilli and himself to be the Town Council representatives to the Elementary School Building Committee. President Sideris stated that he would join the Committee because he is also a member of the School Committee.

8. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Informational Presentation on Public Arts - Watertown [Public Arts and Culture Committee](#).

Councilor Piccirilli made a motion to move up Item 8 in the agenda; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Magoon stated the Arts Group created a resource guide that would be helpful to the development community and to the public interested in arts.

Janet Jameson and Deborah Peterson, presenters, stated that the Watertown Public Arts and Culture Commission had worked for a year to provide this resource that can enhance the development review process and provide new ideas for integrating art into the community. The Commission has developed three murals and is working on another with the Boys and Girls Club.

President Sideris thanked the Commission for their efforts and stated that he looked forward to their continued efforts.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing and Action on a Resolution Adopting an Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, Article V by Inserting Section 5.19 – [Temporary Moratorium on Recreational Marijuana Establishments](#)

Mr. Magoon stated that the Planning Board had a public hearing on January 10, 2018 and they unanimously recommended the temporary moratorium until either the MA Cannabis Control Commission develops its regulations or until December 31, 2018, at which time it will automatically expire. This request is

being made because it would provide time for the Town to develop its regulations.

President Sideris opened the Hearing to the public; there being no speakers, he closed the public hearing.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adopt an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance for a temporary moratorium on recreational marijuana establishments; Councilor Kounelis seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a roll call vote.

8. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Informational Presentation on Public Arts - Watertown [Public Arts and Culture Committee](#).

The notes for this item are listed prior to Item 7.

9. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

A. First Reading and Referral to the Planning Board for Public Hearing a Request to Amend the Zoning Ordinance, Article V, Table of Use Regulations, Section 5.01.5 (i) by Changing the Land Use Category from SP/SR to N in the I-1 and I-2 Districts and by Striking [Self Storage Facility](#) from Article VI, the Automotive and Bicycle Parking Requirements

Mr. Magoon stated the amendment would eliminate self-storage facilities as a use for the I-1 and I-2 Districts.

Councilor Piccirilli moved to refer the above matter to the Planning Board; Councilor Kounelis seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on a roll call vote of 8-1. All Councilors voted in the affirmative except for Councilor Woodland who voted in the negative.

B. First Reading on a Proposed Ordinance to [Modify Hours of Operation of the Administration Building](#).

Mr. Driscoll provided an overview on the request and stated that the Public Hearing would take place at the next Town Council meeting.

10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Committee on Rules and Ordinances Report Regarding [Town Council Rules and G.L. Chapter 59 Section 5K](#) – Anthony J. Donato, Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1) That the Town Council Adopt the Municipal Modernization Act's Amendments to the Senior Property Tax Work-Off Program Under G.L. Chapter 59 Section 5K

- 2) That the Town Council Adopt the Revised Town Council Rules in Accordance with the Recommendations Outlined by the Committee –
NOTE: This Item Will Be Taken Up At the Next Town Council Meeting

Councilor Donato read the Committee Report. Councilor Piccirilli moved to accept the report; Councilor Feltner seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

Councilor Piccirilli moved that the Town Council adopt the Municipal Modernization Act's amendments to the Senior Property Tax Work-Off Program under G.L. Chapter 59 Section 5K; Councilor Woodland seconded the motion.

Attorney Reich stated that the motion should be amended to include language indicating that the intent is to increase the exemption up to \$1,500. Councilor Piccirilli moved to amend the motion; he moved that the Town Council adopt the Municipal Modernization Act's amendments to the Senior Property Tax Work-Off Program under G.L. Chapter 59 Section 5K which will provide an exemption up to \$1,500; Councilor Woodland seconded the amended motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote.

11. NEW BUSINESS

There were no new business requests.

12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Driscoll stated that on March 3-4, 2018, the Annual Weddings and Events Showcase would be held at the Commander's Mansion from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

13. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION/REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS

There were no requests.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Dattoli announced that on February 28, 2018, he would be submitting a letter of resignation from the Town Council effective April 30, 2018 because he is relocating. He thanked the Community for their support and stated that he would continue to represent it during the transition.

Councilor Kounelis reminded the community that on March 17, 2018, a memorial plaque honoring Firefighter Joseph Toscano would be placed at the corner of Merrifield Avenue and Bigelow Avenue with a reception following

at the Hellenic Center. She thanked Watertown Savings Bank for their donation of the plaque and the reception costs.

Councilor Donato announced that on February 28, 2018 in the Town Council Chamber at 6:30 p.m., there would be a presentation regarding the Watertown Complete Streets Prioritization Plan. He also recommended the newsletter of the Council on Aging and the Council's website and Facebook page for matters affecting seniors.

Councilor Feltner stated that on Thursday and Friday (March 1-2, 2018), the Drama Department at the Middle School would be presenting a musical review of the Wizard of Oz. She encouraged all to attend.

15. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the Public Forum.

16. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Piccirilli moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Dattoli seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

[ADDENDUM](#)

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above minutes were adopted by a vote of _9_ for, _0_ against, _0_ present on March 15, 2018.

Mark S. Sideris, Council President
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**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018 AT 6:15 P.M.
RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. Temporary Moratorium on Recreational Marijuana Establishments – Planning Board Report with Listing of Public Hearing and Ordinance – Item 7
2. Agenda Item – Informational Presentation on Public Arts – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – February 22, 2018 – Item 8
3. Self Storage Memorandum – Steve Magoon, Director of Community Development and Planning/ Assistant Town Manager, to Town Council, February 21, 2018 – Item 9A
4. Proposed Ordinance to Modify Administration Building Hours – Michael Driscoll, Town Manager, to Town Council – February 22, 2018 – Item 9B
5. Rules and Ordinances Committee Report Regarding Town Council Rules and G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5K – January 31, 2018 – Item 10